



February 25, 2021

Director
Office of Child Care
330 C ST SW, 4th Floor
Washington, DC 20201

Dear OCC Director:

This letter describes how Walatowa Child Care plans to use the Child Care and Development Funds (CCDF) awarded under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA). We understand that this description will be used for the purpose of informing the Office of Child Care, Administration for Children and Families and Congress how our Lead Agency anticipates using the funds to support the child care needs in our jurisdiction.

We plan to use CRRSA funds for activities in the following categories:

1. Direct Services/Subsidies

- Provide child care assistance to qualified families residing within the Jemez Pueblo service area based on a priority point system.
- Provide direct services to families in need of assistance with child care payments based on priority point system.

2. Implementation of Virus Mitigation Policies and Practices

- Provide resources, supplies, and technical assistance to support the implementation of health and safety practices that reflect local and state Public Health Orders for the purposes of cleaning and sanitation. Such things will include health and safety protocol signage, disinfecting/cleaning supplies or deep cleaning services, sanitizing stations, hand sanitizers, hand soap, paper towels, personal protective equipment or PPE and cleaning devices targeted to kill covid-19 along with other communicable illnesses.
- Provide additional funding to providers to help meet the health and safety guidelines to improve the quality of care provided through training and professional development.

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- Hire a maintenance and cleaning staff to provide daily cleaning and sanitization of the center and classrooms. These positions will be cost-allocated with the Head Start Program.
- Provide will purchase and provide mask-making supplies such as a mask pattern, cotton fabric, elastic and basic sewing supplies for staff, children and their families.

3. Grants or Assistance (Other than Subsidies) to Stabilize Child Care Providers

- Provide virtual professional development opportunities, staffing, and other activities necessary to maintain or resume the operation of programs.
- Provide technology devices and support to child care providers to implement virtual services and learning to children and families during the pandemic.

4. Assistance to Providers Not Participating in the Subsidy System Prior to the Pandemic

- The Pueblo of Jemez has not determined how to use funds under this category. We are waiting on further guidance.

5. Other

- Purchase nutritious snacks/traditional food items for children.
- Purchase appropriate formula, diapers and wipes for infants and toddlers.
- Provide referrals and resources for therapy/coaching for trauma and grief for families relating to COVID-19. Contracts for the provision of mental health services will be cost-allocated with the head start program.
- Provide a culturally-relevant and age-appropriate Jemez Language and Culture curriculum for children enrolled in the program.
- Strengthen health and safety policies and procedures.

The Pueblo of Jemez Walatowa Child Care will amend our CCDF plan as a result of activities implemented under CRRSA funding not currently described in the plan, within 60 days of implementation.

Sincerely,

/s/

Lana Garcia
Early Childhood Program Manager
Pueblo of Jemez

cc: Gwendolyn Jones, Regional Program Manager, Office of Child Care, Region 6
Joey Bishop, Program Specialist, Office of Child Care, Region 6
Joshua Lee, Program Specialist, Office of Child Care, Region 10

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